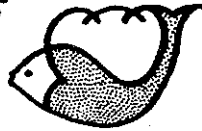


Loaves and Fishes



Ministries

**Emergency Overnight Shelter and Services**

831 N. Sycamore St.  
(Corner of Oakland & Sycamore)  
Lansing, MI 48906

**Transitional Housing and Services**

Zacchaeus House for women with children  
Luke's House for single men

Telephone (517) 482-2099 Fax (517) 482-6848

[www.loavesandfisheslansing.org](http://www.loavesandfisheslansing.org)

Summer 2023

**REAL FACTS**

**4,380**

Overnight Emergency Shelter bed nights provided annually.

**13,140**

Overnight Emergency Shelter meals served annually.

**2 additional**

Longer term 24/7 houses –  
1 for single women with children; 1 for single men

**365 days/yr.**

Professional Advocacy & Support Services

However, REAL FACTS are incomplete without acknowledging that it is generous people like YOU who have kept our Emergency Shelter and our Transitional Homes going and growing. If we have learned anything over these past many years, it is that we could never have even tried to meet the complex needs of homeless mothers, fathers, children, veterans and mentally ill without the generous support of our private and public donors.

The gratitude of our L&F guests is very REAL too! Nothing says it better than surprise notes from guests like this:

*"I am writing this letter with tremendous gratitude for your full-time staff. Their kind and thoughtful demeanor met me from my initial telephone call to my final goodbye. I was so appreciative of the way they both went out of their way to make me feel comfortable. After my painful and ugly divorce, the last thing I was in need of was anyone making me feel lower. I got the exact opposite from them!"*

*"The facilities were immaculately clean, the volunteers clearly and properly trained in the ways of compassion and goodwill, and the food was surprisingly delicious. Although it may seem unlikely to find this kind of gem right here in Lansing, MI, it is absolutely true. I have never in my life had to stay in a shelter before, and like many of us, I was afraid and believed the stories I'd heard. But because of the unlikely safety, humanity, and professionalism I experienced at L&F – I am compelled to write this 'Thank You! Letter.'"*

**Please consider helping to sustain L&F by:**

Making secure donations through our website at [www.loavesandfisheslansing.org](http://www.loavesandfisheslansing.org)

Click on "Donate," then click the "Network for Good" button.



**HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE BY LEAVING A LEGACY OF LOVE**

Plan now to share your bounty to help secure the future of our sisters and brothers experiencing homelessness in the Greater Lansing Area, by designating Loaves and Fishes Ministries as a recipient of a portion of your financial blessings in your Will or Trust.

**OR...consider Legacy Giving (Next column)**

# A Warm and Loving Farewell Message to Sallie Campbell

By Oliver Graham, L&F Volunteer Coordinator

*"It is an absolute human certainty that no one can know his own beauty or perceive a sense of his own worth until it has been reflected back to him in the mirror of another loving, caring human being." — John Joseph Powell*



**Hi! My name is Oliver. I am the Volunteer Coordinator at Loaves and Fishes Ministries.**

I would love to be able to draw a clean, straight line between leaving a career in real estate, to working as the volunteer coordinator in a homeless ministry, however, any attempt at such a line would be a lie. I left my career during a time of personal turmoil, and long before finding Loaves and Fishes Ministries. *I found Loaves and Fishes as a guest, marking the end of a crisis, and the beginning of something new.* I very much refer to my arrival at Loaves and Fishes as a re-birth, but that's not exactly what it was, or more accurately – that's not the interesting part to me.

Have you ever looked at a plant, maybe sitting on a table, and thought *I should move that to the window and get it some water before it dies?* Then, maybe a few days later, you start to see the plant stand up a bit, or start to bloom? Your care saved its life. It wasn't a big deal to you. You've done it before. You'll probably do it again.

**Sallie Campbell**, who served as L&F's Interim Executive Director for nearly 8 months sees humans this way. Show her someone who is broken beyond measure, and she will do everything she can to prove you wrong. She will move that plant into the light, and give it water, and rejoice in the new life. *The word "Unfixable" is not in Sallie's dictionary.*

If you need help, Sallie's hand is already up. As a guest at the shelter, this was very helpful, and as her employee, a bit tiring, *but that is the heart of the servant — The hand still finds a way up when the arm has had enough.* *Sallie is a light that shines everywhere she goes.* Thankfully, I found that light when my life was dark, and I felt like a weathered, withered flower.

**I don't know if there will ever be a way to really thank Sallie** for giving me the water and sunshine I was in such desperate need of, and you can't really repay a person like Sallie. Mostly because she is faster than you, and you will not be able to keep proper track of her, but what I will do, in honor of her work and her heart, is try harder to not give up on people. I will fight myself to not give up when I feel myself giving up. I will fight for others and advocate for others, tirelessly, until freedom, justice, security, and peace are back on the table for them.

**Sallie** may have been an Interim Executive Director, but the impact she made on the lives of the guests at L&F and others in the community will continue to grow, in the shelter, and the community (**See Soul-Stirring example below**). The support and encouragement that is so natural to Sallie have helped people find work, find homes, but most importantly – find themselves. **With all of the love a human can have for another human, hear me when I say: "Thank you, Sallie, for helping me find my way back to myself. I will do my best to not let you down and will try to be more like you in my daily life."** ♥♥♥ Oliver Graham

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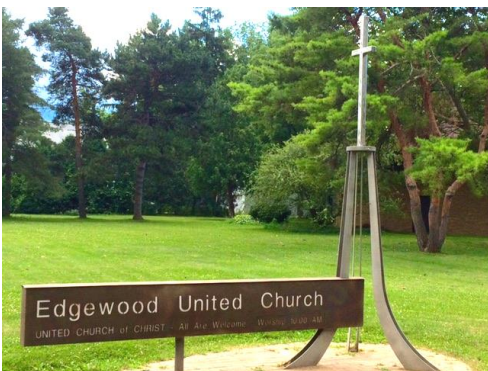
## ♥♥♥ A Soul-Stirring example of Sallie's loving response to a Mother in need. ♥♥♥

*" Dear Sallie, A week ago, I called Loaves & Fishes looking for a safe place for my cognitively disabled daughter (who lives in East Lansing) to sleep for the night, after having been sexually assaulted two days prior. You were so kind, so caring, so willing to think deeply about resources that might help her even though all the beds at Loaves & Fishes were spoken for. That level of compassion, generosity, and wisdom came just at the right time for a mom 80 miles away who needed to take a deep breath and be reminded that kind people are everywhere, even if 'program dollars' are scarce. Thank you, All the Best, (name not included to protect the identity of the writer)"*

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Following our Interim Executive Director Sallie Campbell's departure in May, Teri Looney joined the Loaves and Fishes Ministries team as our new Executive Director in June of 2023. Teri comes to L&F with more than a decade of nonprofit leadership and volunteerism in her background. Please join us in welcoming Teri to the team and look for updates from her in the coming months in our newsletters, on Facebook, and on our website <https://loavesandfisheslansing.org> as she settles into her role.

***May God bless both Sallie and Teri for their loving service to L&F !!***



### A Long and Loving Relationship: Edgewood UCC and L&F

Edgewood United Church of Christ, of East Lansing, *has been a loyal supporter of Loaves and Fishes Ministries since its inception over 40 years ago.* Edgewood, a forerunner on social justice issues in our community, has faithfully provided evening dinners twice a month as well as contributed financial support for many, many years.



*Approximately 26 committed Edgewood members and friends prepare meals throughout the year. Their outpouring of support is so extensive they have a long-serving coordinator, Ms. Sylvia Stevens, who organizes meal volunteers on alternate Wednesdays each month. Sylvia said that during our beginning, start-up years, Edgewood provided three dinners a week!*

Along with their faithful service, *a long-time member and meal preparer shared her own personal story. She prepped meals both before and after her time as a guest at the shelter. As she shared, "always be welcoming; see our commonalities. Welcome and care for the stranger on the side of the road. L & F provided me shelter less than a decade later when my spouse's abuse threatened my existence."*

*And as Sylvia adds, "Our relationship with L & F has been long and loving. We plan to keep on keeping on."* Thank you, Edgewood, for your kind, unconditional outreach to our neighbors through Loaves and Fishes!

***Our heartfelt thanks to all our faithful individual and community volunteers who share your love through the dinners you provide.***



831 N. Sycamore  
Lansing, MI 48906

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**Please consider helping to sustain L&F by:**

- Using the enclosed donor envelope OR
- Making secure donations through our website at

[www.loavesandfisheslansing.org](http://www.loavesandfisheslansing.org)

Click on "Donate," then click the "Network for Good" button.



**CURRENT RESIDENT OR**



## New & Returning Volunteers – *This is just for YOU!*

**Hi! My name is Oliver. I am the Volunteer Coordinator at Loaves and Fishes Ministries in Lansing, MI. (Phone Number: 517-482-2099)**

**Loaves and Fishes would like to thank ALL of our current volunteers.** From the dinner preparers, whom we would not survive without, and our dinner servers, who keep the evening operations in swing.

- **We currently have SEVEN calendar days to fill, each month, for dinner preparation.** This is a prepared meal for fifteen people, typically prepared offsite, and delivered to the shelter by 6:00 pm.
- **We also have a continued need for dinner shift volunteers.** This is a four-hour shift from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm, where you will serve the prepared dinner, and clean up after.
- **I assure you that our shelter offers an interesting and laidback environment**, which has held high standards for health and cleanliness throughout the pandemic, *with ALL guests and staff having been COVID tested weekly!*

♥♥♥If you haven't been able to volunteer at *your favorite little shelter~*  
**NOW is the time to come back to Loaves and Fishes Ministries.♥♥♥**

*Please reach out to me at: [oliver@loavesandfisheslansing.org](mailto:oliver@loavesandfisheslansing.org) for more info.*